

THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020

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NEWSSTAND 75¢

Health officer issues additional directives on controlling spread of COVID-19 virus

COURIER STAFF REPORT

The number of confirmed cases of the COVID-19 coronavirus climbed past 300,000 in the U.S. on Saturday with 7,616 total deaths, including almost 5,000 positive cases in Indiana leading to 139 of those deaths.

As U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams was offering a stark warning to the nation concerning the expected surge in virus deaths to come this week — “This is going to be our Pearl Harbor moment, our 9/11 moment,” Adams said — Jefferson County Health Officer Dr. John Hossler issued a new, more restrictive list of directives that the local health department hopes residents and businesses will follow to help prevent further spread of COVID-19 here.

As of Monday morning, Indiana



“... At a time like this we are all literally dependent on each other for not only our financial survival, but our personal survival as well. Thus, it is crucial that we stay mindful of the impact our own behavior will have on so many others and choose to make some sacrifices today for the chance of a better tomorrow ...”

Jefferson County Health Officer Dr. John Hossler

was reporting 4,944 confirmed cases out of 26,191 total tests with 139 deaths, including 41 of those in Marion County where Indianapolis is located and 204 news cases reported on Sunday alone.

Jefferson County now has six positive cases out of 83 residents tested and Switzerland County has up to 11 positive tests out of 28 residents

tested. Scott County has tested 84 with seven positives, Ripley County has tested 171 with 70 positives, Jennings 76 with 37 positives, and Clark 352 with 71 positives.

While there have been no deaths in Jefferson, Switzerland and Jennings counties, one person has died in Scott, two in Ripley and four in Clark.

Hossler has said what local resi-

dents do now and over the next few weeks could have a huge impact on controlling the number of coronavirus cases locally and ultimately the local death toll caused by the pandemic. Following stay at home mandates and isolating oneself from others — especially those who may have already contracted the virus but may not yet be symptomatic — and practicing good hand washing and other sanitation is the best defense against infection.

With that in mind, Hossler and the Jefferson County Health Department issued some new directives Sunday for the safety and protection of Jefferson County residents as well as workers still providing essential services. The

**SEE: COVID-19
Page A2, Column 4**

What the US 10 million unemployed need to know

By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AND SARAH SELL**
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — Nearly 10 million Americans have lost their jobs and applied for unemployment benefits in the past two weeks — a stunning record high that reflects the near-complete shutdown of the U.S. economy.

Job losses related to the coronavirus are sure to rise further in coming weeks, with economists saying the U.S. unemployment rate could reach as high as 15%, well above the 10% peak during the Great Recession. As recently as February, the unemployment rate was just 3.5%, a 50-year low.

For those who have suddenly lost jobs, it's a frightening time. Bills need to be paid. Do they qualify for unemployment benefits? How fast will the money arrive?

Here are some questions and answers:

How can I get unemployment benefits?

Workers who have lost their jobs or income through no fault of their own should immediately file a claim for unemployment aid through their state labor departments. The benefit program is administered by state agencies. Most states are encouraging people to request benefits online or, if necessary, over the phone.

I've heard the system is overwhelmed by requests.

Yes, some state websites have crashed. Phone lines have been jammed as the number of people seeking jobless aid has far surpassed all previous records. And the eligibility guidelines have changed. New York state, for example, received 8.2 million calls last week — more than 150 times the usual volume.

Still, people who have lost jobs or whose income has been hurt by coronavirus should keep trying. Many states are bringing on extra workers to handle the crush of applications and are expanding the hours when they accept calls. While it may take several weeks to process a claim, benefit payments will be retroactive: Eligible workers will receive benefits from the date they lost their jobs, regardless of when they file.

How can I make the process operate more smoothly?

Have all your information ready. This includes contact information for all your employers from the past 18 months, your Social Security number and documentation of your income, such as from tax forms or pay stubs.

How large are the unemployment aid checks?

They vary sharply by state. Mississippi provides the lowest amount, \$235 a week. Massachusetts pays \$823 a week, the highest.

I heard the federal government is proving an extra \$600 a week.

Yes. But because that additional money is being paid by the federal government through a new program, rather than by the states' regular

**SEE: UNEMPLOYMENT
Page A2, Column 1**

Firefighters battle blaze on Hickory Drive twice on weekend

COURIER STAFF REPORT

Firefighters in Hanover were dispatched twice this weekend to a residential structure fire in the 300 block of Hickory Drive — once on the initial call out Saturday afternoon and then a second time Sunday morning after the fire rekindled overnight.

“When you have homes with blown-in insulation, you’ve got to soak every bit of it or it will sit there and eventually rekindle,” Hanover Fire Chief Brian Crafton said. “We thought we had it out Saturday but it started back up and we had to go out on it again.”

The original call came in shortly after 2 p.m. Saturday when a short in a breaker box caused wiring to overheat and start a fire in the attic of the one-story home. Crafton said there were three occupants at home at the time of the fire and when the breaker box shorted the television went off alerting the residents of a problem and they soon smelled smoke, evacuated the home and called 911.

When firefighters arrived, flames and smoke were coming through the siding on the right eave of the structure.

Firefighters from Hanover and Madison Township responded to the call and were at the scene until about 4:30 p.m. The fire was contained in the attic and the one eave of the house with firefighters exposing the area and soaking it with water thinking the blaze was fully extinguished.

However, by 8 a.m. Sunday the fire had rekindled and firefighters were



Hanover and Madison Township firefighters were at the scene of a house fire in the 300 block of Hickory Drive twice last weekend as the blaze started Saturday and rekindled by Sunday morning. Hanover firefighter Brenton Black (right, ladder) hoses down the attic area of the home after the fire started in an electrical box and spread to the attic. Dennis Maddox (above, left) takes a break while fighting the blaze on Saturday. (Courier staff photos by Mark Campbell)

back at the scene to do battle once again. This time the entire ceiling had to be dropped to get to the fire and there was a burn-through on the roof.

“I’d say it was a total loss after we had to drop the ceiling,” Crafton said. “We did move out a bunch of their furniture and belongings the day before so at least some of the contents were salvaged.”

Crafton said the homeowner had insurance, had met with her agent and had found a place to stay by Sunday night.



Closures on S.R. 62 and 250 to begin mid-April

Courier staff report

Work will soon begin on a \$1.1 million small structure replacement project on S.R. 62 and S.R. 250 in Jefferson and Switzerland counties later this month, according to the Indiana Department of Transportation.

INDOT contractor Paul H. Rohe

Company will begin work in mid-April at two locations, the first on S.R. 62, approximately 3 miles east of U.S. 421 in Jefferson County, and the second on S.R. 250 over Brushy Creek, located 3.31 miles east of S.R. 62 in Switzerland County, just west of Pleasant. The S.R. 62 detour will

follow U.S. 421 to S.R. 250. The S.R. 250 detour will follow S.R. 62 to S.R. 129, according to INDOT.

The contractor will then move to other locations on S.R. 62 in Jefferson County following the completion of the first two structures including 3.15 miles east of U.S. 421, 3.62 miles east

of U.S. 421, 4.25 miles east of U.S. 421 and 1.02 miles east of S.R. 250.

Additional closure and detour information will be announced. The contract, awarded in January, is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Motorists should slow down, use extra caution in all work zones.



**Display
boat
coming
together**

Page A10

**Bryant, Duncan, Garnett
headline NBA
Hall of Fame class**

Page A10



**Public Works
Zooms
through
meeting**

Page A2



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Weather / A2

Today: Cloudy, 74
Tonight: Partly Cloudy, 59
Wednesday: Thunderstorms, 75
Thursday: Partly Cloudy, 52
Friday: Mostly Sunny, 50

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Deaths / A3

Bliton, Ann	Ely, June
Davis, Ralph	Seel, Kenneth
DeWeese, William	



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•Unemployment

WEATHER

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•COVID-19

LOTTERIES

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OBITUARIES

Ann Bliton

Ann M. Bliton, 51, of Madison, Indiana, died unexpectedly Thursday, April 2, 2020, at King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison.

She was born Feb. 25, 1969, in Madison, to Garnet and Norma Faye Shouse Bliton. She lived all of her life in Jefferson County and was a graduate of Madison Consolidated High School. She had worked for the IKEC Cafeteria and at Madison Precision Products until she became disabled. She enjoyed coloring adult coloring books, being with her grandsons, going on country cruises and Facebook.

Survivors include her daughter, Danielle Pence of Vevay, Indiana; her brother, Jeffrey O. Bliton of Madison; three grandsons, Colton Dean Ardell Stewart, Leland Matthew O'Dell Pence, and Dawson Charles Pence Renecker; her aunts, Alpha Aldridge and Alice Shouse, both of Columbus, Indiana and Barbara Lock of Vevay; an uncle, Gary Morris of Madison; and numerous cousins and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Dottie Sue Bliton, in 2012, and her grandparents, Faye Wesley and Dorothy Pelsor Bliton and Luther Shouse and Susan Matthews.

Friends and family may visit from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 7 at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison. Due to COVID-19 crowd restrictions, visitors will be limited to 10 at a time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ann Bliton Remembrance Fund. Cards are available at the funeral home. Online condolences, www.morgan-nay.com

Ralph Davis

Ralph Edwin Davis, 72, of Madison, Indiana, died Friday, April 3, 2020, at River Terrace Health Campus in Madison. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison.

William DeWeese

William Oliver DeWeese, 88, of Lowell, Indiana and formerly of Ossian and Madison, Indiana, died Friday, April 3, 2020, at the Lowell Healthcare in Lowell.

He was born Aug. 18, 1931, in Decatur, Indiana, to Earl William and Cecil Irene Guysinger DeWeese. He attended Monmouth High School and was inducted into the U.S. Army on Sept. 7, 1951, in Indianapolis,

Indiana. He rose to the rate of Private First Class serving in the Korean War in H Company 23rd Infantry Regiment. He was honorably discharged on May 15, 1953, at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, receiving the Korean Service Medal with three bronze battle stars and the United Nations Service Medal.

He worked early in life for Gabhart Farnsworth then went to IT&T as a machinist for 10 years. He then worked in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, in civil service in heavy equipment repair and inspection for 23 years before retiring in 1991.

He moved to Madison from Ossian in 2002, where he had worked and volunteered at Ossian Church and served in several offices. He joined the Faith Lutheran Church congregation after moving to Madison and enjoyed hunting and fishing in his younger years and nature.

He was first married to Arlene J. Carlson and had three children. He later married Juanita Lee Jones Kaser in Ossian and they had moved to West LaFayette earlier in 2019 before he returned to Lowell after her death.

Survivors include his daughters, Deborah K. Ingemansen of Milton, Wisconsin and Nancy J. DeWeese of Chicago; a son Gregory M. DeWeese of Hamilton, Ohio; a stepson, Mark D. Kaser of Louisville; a stepdaughter, Melody Ruth Kaser Urgo of Indianapolis; a sister, Alice Naylor of Valparaiso, Indiana; and five grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Orene L. DeWeese; his first wife, Arlene J. Carlson DeWeese, in July 2000; his second wife of 38 years, Juanita Lee Jones DeWeese, in October 2019; and his sister, Kathryn DeWeese Grover.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, at Faith Lutheran Church in Madison. Interment will be private in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison. Due to COVID-19 crowd restrictions, visitors will be limited to 10 at a time. Friends may visit from noon until time of services at the church. A final salute and military honors will be conducted at the church by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Lutheran Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover.

ison and Hanover as well as the church. Online condolences, www.morgan-nay.com

June Ely

June Maxine Brown Rein Ely, 95, of Dupont, Indiana, died Saturday, April 4, 2020, at Thornton Terrace Health Campus in Hanover, Indiana. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com

Kenneth Seel

Kenneth D. Seel, 82, of Madison, Indiana, died Sunday, April 5, 2020, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com

ison, www.morgan-nay.com

JEFFERSON SHERIFF

ARRESTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

6:39 a.m. Bradley Birge Dupont. Arrested for invasion of privacy.

CRIME

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

6:39 a.m. Protective order violation 400 block East LaGrange Road. Arrest made. 9:02 a.m. Protective order violation 10500 North West Front Street, Dupont. Report taken.

10:22 a.m. Animal problem, 700 North Whippoorwill Road.

2:54 p.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 1400

block Clifty Hollow Road. 8:27 p.m. Civil dispute 100 block Sycamore Drive. 8:31 p.m. Verbal argument 100 block Lois Lane. 8:50 p.m. Juvenile problem 5000 block North Griffith Lane. 9 p.m. Protective order violation 7700 block South State Road 62, Lexington. Report taken. 10:27 p.m. Protective order

violation 7200 South State Road 62, Lexington.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

11:23 a.m. Domestic stand-by 900 Northwood Drive.

8:02 p.m. Domestic stand-by 9100 block North State Road 7, Dupont.

8:04 p.m. ATV problem or complaint 3900 block North 1450 West, Deputy.

SEE: RECORD Page A4, Column 1



Let Us Pause to Honor the Memory of

Mr. William Oliver DeWeese

Mr. William Oliver DeWeese, age 88, of Lowell, Indiana and formerly of Ossian and Madison, Indiana entered this life on August 18, 1931 in Decatur, Indiana. He was the loving son of the late Earl William and Cecil Irene Guysinger DeWeese. He attended Monmouth High School and then was inducted into the United States Army on September 7, 1951 in Indianapolis, Indiana. He rose to the rate of Private First Class serving in the Korean War in H Company 23rd Infantry Regiment. He was honorably discharged on May 15, 1953 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana receiving the Korean Service Medal with three bronze battle stars and the United Nations Service Medal. He was first united in marriage to Arlene J. Carlson and was blessed with children, Deborah, Gregory and Nancy. He worked early in life for Gabhart Farnsworth before joining IT&T as a machinist for 10 years. He worked in Ft. Wayne, Indiana in civil service in heavy equipment repair and inspection for 23 years before retiring in 1991. On December 19, 1981, Bill was united in marriage to Juanita Lee Jones Kaser in Ossian, Indiana. He moved to Madison, Indiana from Ossian, Indiana in 2002. He worked and volunteered at Ossian Church where he served in several offices while there. He joined the congregation at the Faith Lutheran Church after moving to Madison. Bill, who enjoyed hunting and fishing in his younger days, thoroughly admired nature. Bill and Juanita re-located to West LaFayette in 2019 and after Juanita's death he moved to Lowell. Bill died on Friday, April 3, 2020, at 5:30 a.m. at the Lowell Healthcare in Lowell, Indiana.

A LOVING FAMILY

He will be missed by his daughter, Deborah K. Ingemansen of Milton, Wisconsin and her husband Martin; his son Gregory M. of Hamilton, Ohio and his wife Beth J. DeWeese; and his daughter Nancy J. DeWeese of Chicago, Illinois; his step-son, Mark D. Kaser and his wife, Libby Alexander of Louisville, Kentucky; his step-daughter, Melody Ruth Kaser Urgo and her husband, Richard of Indianapolis, Indiana; his grandchildren, Rachael Myers of Miamisburg, Ohio and her husband Ben; Tamara McDowell of Milton, Wisconsin; Jacob DeWeese of Scottsdale, Arizona, Matthew DeWeese of Hamilton, Ohio, and Sara DeWeese of Sandusky, Ohio; his great grandchildren, Christian, Paige Bogner, Noel, Logan, Emily Myers of Miamisburg, Ohio, Hannah, James, Lydia, Elijah MacNeal of Milton, Wisconsin, Carter DeWeese of Scottsdale, Arizona; his sister, Alice Naylor of Valparaiso, Indiana; his sister-in-law, Loretta Chupp of Kalamazoo, Michigan; several nieces, nephews and other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father, Earl William DeWeese, died July 21, 1988, his mother, Cecil Irene Guysinger DeWeese, died November 29, 1945, his step-mother, Orene L. DeWeese, died December 2, 1999, his first wife and mother of his children, Arlene J. Carlson DeWeese, died July 11, 2000, his wife of 38 years, Juanita Lee Jones DeWeese, died October 12, 2019, his sister, Kathryn DeWeese Grover, died March 1, 2018, and his brother-in-law William Naylor, died April 8, 2018.

FUNERAL CEREMONY

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., by Pastor Jeff Pflug at the Faith Lutheran Church, 3024 North Michigan Road in Madison, Indiana. Interment will be private in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison, Indiana.

(NOTE DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS RESTRICTIONS, VISITORS WILL BE LIMITED TO 10 VISITORS AT A TIME)

VISITATION

Friends may visit Tuesday from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Faith Lutheran Church, 3024 North Michigan Road in Madison, Indiana.

MILITARY HONORS

A final salute and military honors will be conducted at Faith Lutheran Church by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

MEMORIAL EXPRESSIONS

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Lutheran Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover as well as the church. Online condolences, www.morgan-nay.com

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Let Us Pause to Honor the Memory of

Mrs. Mary Ellen Hall Johnson

Mrs. Mary Ellen Hall Johnson, age 76, of Madison, Indiana entered this life on August 29, 1943 in Madison, Indiana. She was the loving daughter of the late Robert Lee and Mildred L. Spry Hall. She attended school and lived in Jefferson County, Indiana all her life. In 1963, she was united in marriage to Earl Spencer, Sr. This union was blessed with a son, Earl, Jr. and a daughter, Revetta "Rita". She retired from U. S. Shoe Corporation after 17 years of service as a machine operator. Earlier in life, she had been a waitress at Fiesta Restaurant, Inglis Drug Store and Rogers Drug Store. On June 14, 1986, she was united in marriage to Kenneth Wayne Johnson, Sr. in Bedford, Kentucky. Mary Ellen was a member of the First Baptist Church, Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion, Madison Eagles Lodge, and the Madison JayCeers. She enjoyed crocheting, sewing, cooking, gardening, and spending time with her grandchildren. Mary Ellen loved her dog, "Buddy" and playing Bingo. Mary Ellen died on Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 9:07 p.m. at the King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, Indiana.

A LOVING FAMILY

Mary Ellen will be missed by her loving husband of 34 years, Kenneth Wayne Johnson, Sr. of Madison, Indiana; her loving daughter, Revetta "Rita" Tittsworth of Madison, Indiana; her loving son, Earl Spencer, Jr. and his wife Jeanie of Carrollton, Kentucky; her step daughter, Amy Marie Johnson of Valeo, California; her step son, Kenneth Wayne Johnson, Jr. of Valeo, California; her grandchildren, Kyle, Kayla, Katie, Gage, Clarissa, Christina and Cameron; her great grandchildren, Olivia, Aaiden, Mitchell, Walter, and Lincoln; her sister, Martha Steans and her husband Larry of North Vernon, Indiana; her brother, Tony Hall and his wife Cheryl of Madison, Indiana; several nieces, nephews and other relatives. She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Lee Hall, died February 20, 1978, her mother, Mildred L. Spry Hall, died August 31, 2012, her sister, Patty L. Hall Poynter, died January 19, 2012 and her husband, Charles, died August 30, 2011.

FUNERAL

Funeral services will be conducted on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., by Pastor Shane Brunner at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana. Interment will be at a later date in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison, Indiana.

VISITATION

Friends and family may visit on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana. Due to the Covid-19 Restrictions, only 10 visitors are allowed in the Chapel at a time so please be prepared to wait when you arrive. Thank you for your consideration at this difficult time.

MEMORIAL EXPRESSIONS

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Diabetes Association. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre's of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, www.morgan-nay.com

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Record

Continued from Page A3

9:16 p.m. Animal problem 2300 block North K Road.
11:12 p.m. Noise complaint 6500 North 800 West.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
2:12 a.m. Reckless driving 1700 block Key 2 Circle.
3:39 p.m. Mailbox damaged or destroyed 5600 block West State Road 256.

3:41 p.m. Animal problem 5100 block West Interstate Block Road.
7 p.m. ATV problem or complaint 10500 block North Reynolds Road, Dupont. Unable to locate.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
12:50 a.m. Suspicious vehicle 100 block West Main Street, Hanover. Unable to locate.

TRAFFIC
THURSDAY, APRIL 2
7:44 a.m. Assist motorist North US 421.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
8:55 a.m. Assist motorist US 421 and Old State Road 62.
12:27 p.m. Deer injured 4800 North State Road 3, Deputy.

9:31 p.m. Assist motorist North US 421.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
5:11 p.m. Assist motorist North US 421.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
1:29 a.m. Traffic stop 800 block North Borcharding Road.

GENERAL
THURSDAY, APRIL 2

9:33 a.m. Transport to Crawford County Indiana Jail.
10:42 a.m. 911 hang-up call. 12000 West Henry Road, Deputy.
1:02 p.m. General information South River Road, Hanover.

6:15 p.m. Extra patrol requested 10000 North East Front Street, Dupont.

7:37 p.m. Follow-up case 4600 West Reed Road, Hanover.

8:13 p.m. Welfare check 200 block West Skyline Drive.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
6:15 a.m. Extra patrol 1400 block North US 421.

9:23 a.m. Transport 1300 block North State Road 62.
5:12 p.m. 911 Hang-up 3500 block Woodside Drive.

10:38 p.m. Follow-up case 100 block Cragmont Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
4:21 a.m. Assist other agency 9300 block Lost Fork Road, Vevay. Unable to locate.

12:21 p.m. Found item 200 block East Main Street, Hanover.

1:54 p.m. Assist other agency 100 block Lois Lane. Pigs out.

5:08 p.m. Welfare check 14100 block West Main Street, Deputy.

5:45 p.m. Welfare check 7100 West State Road 256.

6:35 p.m. 911 child playing. 5200 block West Deputy Pike Road.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
12:22 a.m. Follow-up case 400 block North Emmons Street. Negative contact.

MADISON POLICE

ARRESTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 2
7:01 p.m. Roy Hawkins, 36 arrested for invasion of privacy.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
1:46 p.m. Michael Stakelin arrested for warrants and possession of methamphetamine.

1:46 p.m. Joyce Taulbee arrested for warrants and possession of paraphernalia.

7:59 p.m. James Robert Baird, 61, of Madison, arrested for possession of paraphernalia.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
9:15 p.m. James L. Rowlett Jr., 53, of Madison. Arrested OWI.

CITATIONS
SATURDAY, APRIL 4
2:24 a.m. Michael Allen Hockersmith, 21, of Connersville. Operating never licensed.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
1:22 a.m. Jacob Thomas Conard, 19, of Madison. Citation for disregarding stop sign.

CRIME
THURSDAY, APRIL 2
12:53 p.m. Property damage accident 2800 block Michigan Road.

12:56 p.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 700 block Clifty Drive. Unable to locate.

2:11 p.m. Alarm 2200 block Lanier Drive.

3:46 p.m. Missing juvenile

100 block Wildwood Drive.
4:37 p.m. Follow-up case 200 block Montclair Street.
4:48 p.m. Attempt to serve warrant 2100 block Michigan Road. Unable to locate.

5:21 p.m. Fight with weapons Fifth and Jefferson streets.

6:43 p.m. Domestic stand-by 300 block West Fifth Street.

7:31 p.m. Suspicious vehicle reported.

8:24 p.m. Trespassing 2300 Cherry Drive.

10 p.m. Verbal argument Taft Drive.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
8:13 a.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 700 block Walnut Street.

11:10 a.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 2200 block Michigan Road.

12:17 p.m. Suspicious vehicle Vaughn Drive and West Street.

1:38 p.m. Protective order violation 100 block Taft Drive.

2:00 p.m. Disorderly conduct 500 block Ivy Tech Drive.

2:28 p.m. Property damage accident 100 block Franks Drive.

4:42 p.m. Property damage accident 500 block Clifty Drive

7:34 p.m. Reckless Driving Forest Drive. Unable to locate.

7:37 p.m. Drugs or drug case 300 block East Main Street.

8:28 p.m. Personal injury accident 700 block West Main Street.

9:13 p.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 700 block

East First Street
9:16 p.m. Drugs or drug case 100 block Clifty Drive. Unable to locate.

9:52 p.m. Trespassing 800 block East Main Street. Unable to locate.

11:31 p.m. Illegal fire 1400 block Clifty Hollow Road. Unable to locate.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
12:18 a.m. Suspicious vehicle 900 block Industrial Drive.

1:09 a.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 2100 block Lanier Drive.

8 a.m. Harassment 400 block West State Street.

8:28 a.m. Alarm 2100 block Lanier Drive.

8:49 a.m. Civil dispute 700 block West Third Street.

9:12 a.m. Security check 100 block St. Michaels Avenue.

9:52 a.m. Civil dispute Boardway and Main Street.

10:18 a.m. Juvenile problem 800 block West Main Street.

11:02 a.m. Unwanted subject 400 block East Clifty Drive.

2:44 p.m. Suspicious person or circumstance 100 block Cragmont Street.

7:42 p.m. Trespassing 100 block Taft Drive. Unable to locate.

7:55 p.m. Trespassing 700 block Walnut Street.

9:15 p.m. Fight with no weapons 800 block Walnut Street. Arrest made.

9:28 p.m. Disturbance 1400 block Clifty Drive. Unable to locate.

10:45 p.m. Fight with no weapons 300 block Jeffer-

son Street.
11:35 p.m. Drugs or drug case 700 block West Third Street.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5
12:57 a.m. Intoxicated person 600 block Green Road.

TRAFFIC
THURSDAY, APRIL 2
10:06 a.m. Parking problem 800 block West Street.

6:04 p.m. Traffic stop 500 block Ivy Tech Drive. Verbal warning.

7:01 p.m. Traffic stop. Arrest made.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3
1:46 p.m. Traffic stop US 421 south of Roundabout. Arrests made.

7:59 p.m. Traffic stop 400 block Jefferson Street. Arrest made.

9:41 p.m. Traffic stop Green and Michigan Roads. Verbal warning.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
12:10 a.m. Traffic stop Wilson Avenue and Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

12:29 a.m. Traffic stop 300 block Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

12:48 a.m. Traffic stop 1100 block Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

1:13 a.m. Traffic stop Wilson Avenue and Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

2:11 a.m. Traffic stop 300 block Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

2:24 a.m. Traffic stop 700 block Clifty Drive. Citation issued.

2:56 a.m. Traffic stop 2500 block Cragmont Street. Warning issued.

SEE: RECORD
Page A5, Column 1

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If you would like to be apart of this section, email addept@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641, option 3.

Let's try social distancing with a smile

Dear Annie: My husband of almost 22 years died of cancer a few months ago. Overall, I've done well coping with his loss. I'm involved in our new small-town community, where we built a beautiful custom home just 3 1/2 years ago, and I have many wonderful new friends and neighbors who include me in lots of their social activities. I'm quite fortunate.



Annie Lane

Just as my husband's absence started to become more real for me, which has been a challenge, the coronavirus alarmism took over all our lives. The timing couldn't be worse. Businesses are closing. Events are being canceled. And going to a store to buy essentials is suddenly a surreal experience of observing hoarders behaving with territorial abandon. As a result, I

am spending more time alone.

On top of all that, I seem to disagree with most of my friends and neighbors on just how seriously to take this "crisis"

in light of the fact that, by all *credible* accounts, this virus is far less serious for the healthy and non-elderly than the flu in an average season. I'm more worried about economic consequences of all of the hype. I wish to educate people before it's too late for businesses, jobs and people's livelihoods. I have made my views known, but to

little avail.

All of this has me feeling isolated, depressed and at risk of alienating friends. Do you have any suggestions for how I can cope? — Wanting Nightmare to End

Dear Wanting Nightmare to End: I am so sorry you lost your husband. The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted everyone and everything. Trying to educate people about your point of view will not help you feel less isolated. The last thing you want to do is alienate friends. Please listen to the guidelines from the government.

Try and remember that this very difficult time will pass. If we all do our part, this will end soon. We will come out of this isolation appreciating one another more, being more

thankful for the little pleasures in life that are on hold right now. Use FaceTime or Skype to connect with your loved ones. You might not be able to physically see them, but you can still let them know how much you love them.

Below is another step we can all take while practicing social distancing: smiling at one another from afar.

Here is a poem credited to Spike Milligan:

"Smiling is infectious,
"You catch it like the flu,
"When someone smiled at me today,
"I started smiling too.
"I passed around the corner
"And someone saw my grin.
"When he smiled I realized
"I'd passed it on to him.
"I thought about that smile,

BIRTHDAYS

April 7, 2020

- Kenneth Boldery
- Kaila Lira

ANNIVERSARIES

April 8, 2020

- Jeremy and Shannon Honaker

"Then I realized its worth.
"A single smile, just like mine
"Could travel round the earth.
"So, if you feel a smile begin,
"Don't leave it undetected.
"Let's start an epidemic quick,
"And get the world infected!"
Let's start a smiling movement to help end the coronavi-

rus pandemic together.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book — featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette — is available as a paperback and e-book. Go to <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

• Record

Continued from Page A4

6:51 p.m. Traffic stop Broadway and Main streets.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

12:40 a.m. Traffic stop Wilson Avenue and Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

12:51 a.m. Traffic stop Wilson Avenue and Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

1:22 a.m. Traffic stop Second and Cragmont streets. Citation issued.

2:22 a.m. Traffic stop 300 block Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

3:10 a.m. Traffic stop 100 block Clifty Drive. Warning issued.

GENERAL

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

9:35 a.m. Suicide attempt 400 block Jefferson Street.

11:28 a.m. Follow-up case 1100 block Clifty Drive.

1:47 p.m. General information Madison Police Department.

2:28 p.m. Special detail or patrol 100 block Wildwood Drive.

2:32 p.m. Follow-up case 200 block Montclair Street.

2:57 p.m. Welfare check

Vaughn Drive and Broadway. Unable to locate.

3:51 p.m. Follow-up case Madison Police Department.

5 p.m. Assist EMS 200 block East Second Street.

9:42 p.m. Welfare check 100 block Taft Drive.

9:45 p.m. General information Madison Police Department.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

6:30 a.m. Article in road East Clifty Drive.

12:53 p.m. General information 600 block Ivy Tech Drive.

1:45 p.m. General information Madison Police Department.

7:01 p.m. Lost item Madison Police Department.

7:22 p.m. Assist other agency 100 block Cragmont Street.

7:46 p.m. Found item 100 East Vaughn Drive.

9:28 p.m. Assist EMS 500 block OVO Drive.

9:32 p.m. Assist other agency North US 421.

9:45 p.m. General information Madison Police Department.

11 p.m. Assist other agency 100 block Cragmont Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

11:58 a.m. Lost or stolen item 2600 Michigan Road. Canceled call.

12:38 p.m. Assist other agency.

1:45 p.m. General information Madison Police Department.

1:59 a.m. Unknown problem 400 West State Street.

2:12 p.m. Lockout 300 block Jefferson Street.

2:28 p.m. Welfare check 500 flock of Clifty Drive. Unable to locate.

3:23 p.m. Abandoned vehicle 1400 block Iroquois Drive.

3:32 p.m. Unknown problem

700 West Third Street.

4:42 p.m. Follow-up case 300 block Walnut Street.

7:17 p.m. Welfare check 2300 Indiana Avenue.

8:30 p.m. Controlled burn 500 Spring Street.

10:25 p.m. Welfare check 700 West Third Street.

HANOVER POLICE

CRIME

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

10:26 a.m. Fraud reported.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

5:31 p.m. Runaway juvenile reported West Street.

9:13 p.m. Animal problem reported 150 block Main

Cross Street.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

1:32 p.m. Verbal argument 100 block Lois Lane. Pigs out.

7:50 p.m. Suspicious vehicle 100 block West Second Street.

TRAFFIC

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

7:19 a.m. Assist motorist 400 block East LaGrange Road.

12:21 p.m. Assist motorist. Verbal warning.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

8:06 p.m. Traffic stop Greenbriar Road and October Street. Driving dirt bike on public road. Verbal warning.

GENERAL

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

12:53 p.m. Unknown problem. Caller reported strange sounds.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

11:33 a.m. Assist other agency 900 block Northwood Drive.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

2:28 p.m. Assist other agency 300 block Hickory Drive.

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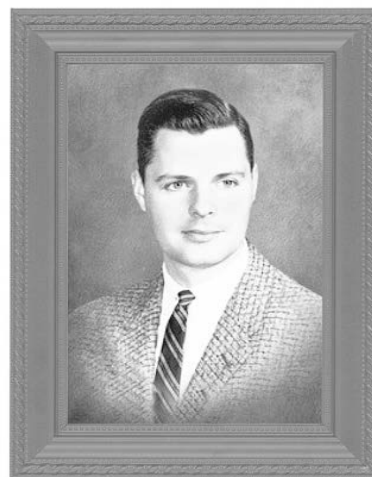
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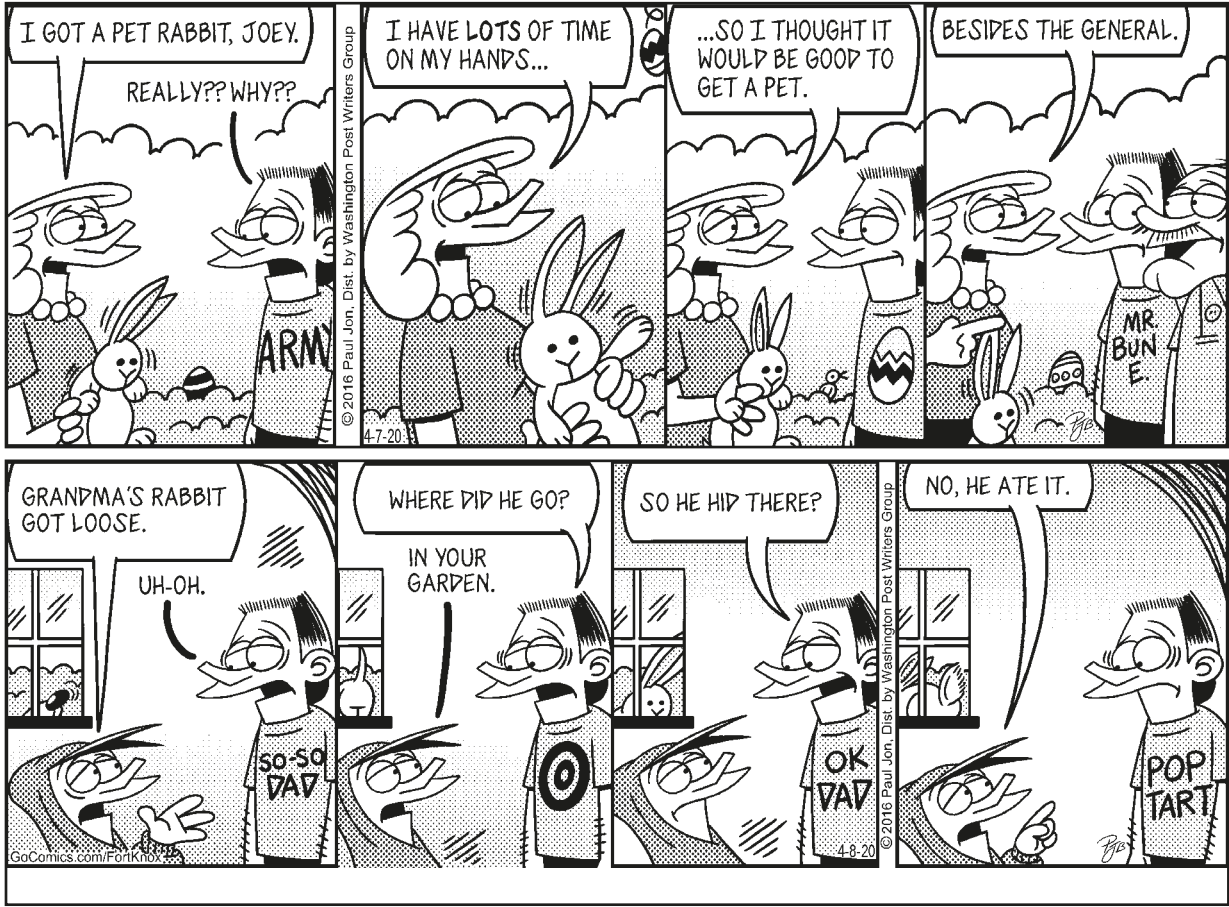
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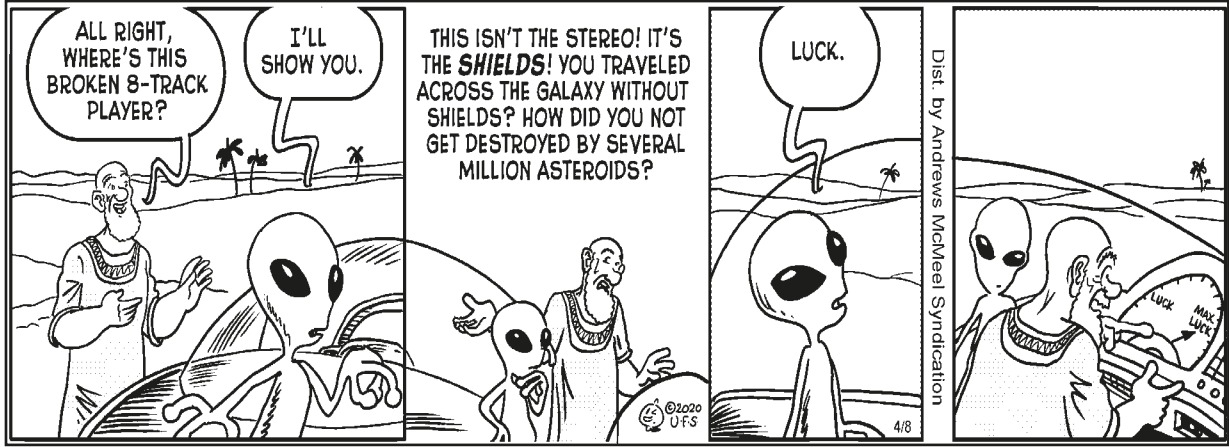
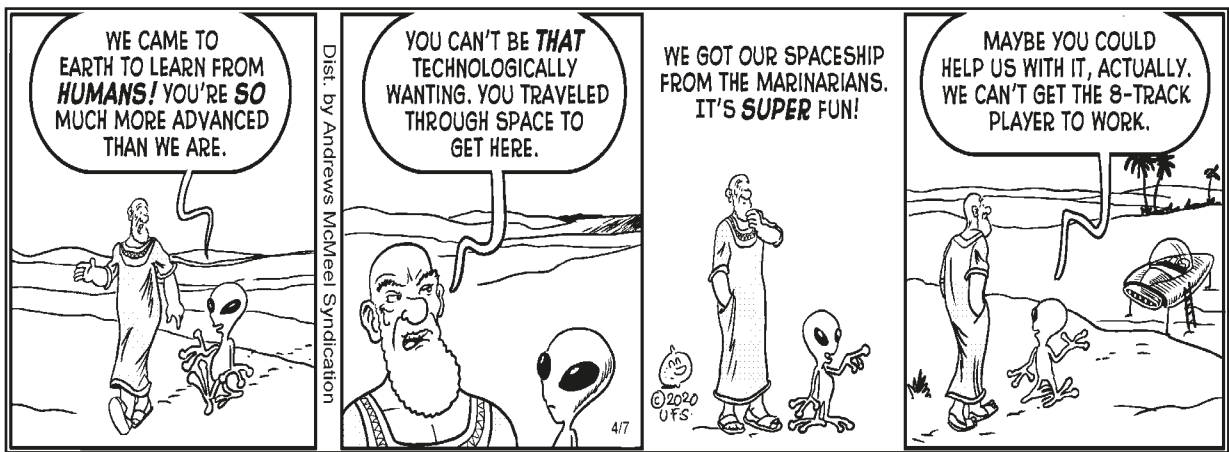
FORT KNOX



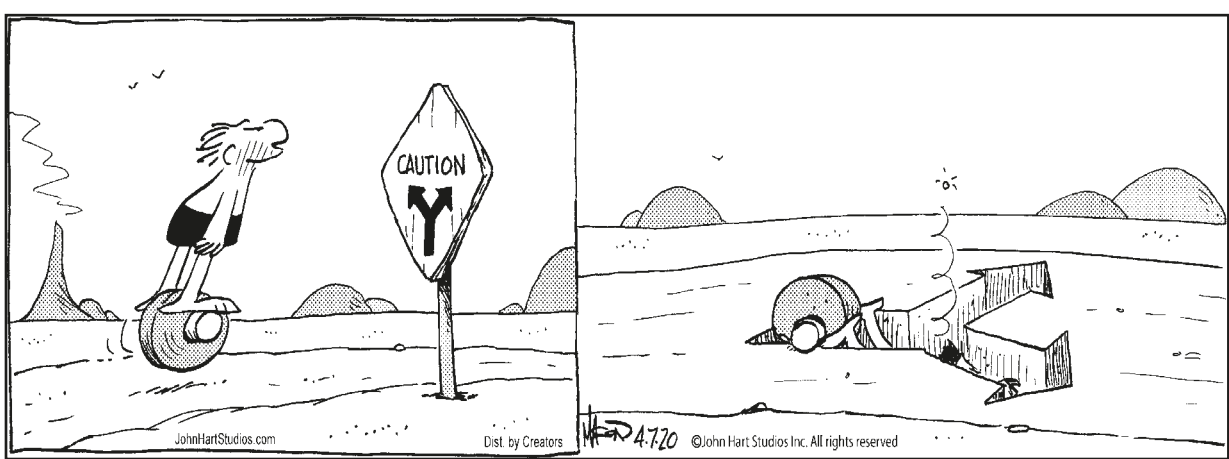
PICKLES



ALLEY OOP



B.C.



BLONDIE



GARFIELD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Off-roader, for short

4 Nile wader

8 Sine — non

11 Prefix meaning “recent”

12 Town meetings

13 Cash-givers, for short

14 Asian language

15 Baby horse

16 Baroness Karen

17 Rich pastry

19 Young goat

21 Vigorous

22 Without ice

25 Adorned

29 — Moines

31 Early Peruvian

34 — Kippur

35 Stoic philosopher

36 Meadow rodent

DOWN

1 Chip in

2 Coach

3 Monsieur’s shout

4 Riskier

5 Obnoxious one

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	A	L	S		U	S	A		E	D	G	E
A	L	I	T		N	O	W		Y	O	U	R
D	E	E	R		J	U	L	I	E	N	N	E
		G	U	I	T	A	R		R	I	S	K
				K	L	M			M	O	N	
A	Z	T	E	C		G	I	N	G	E	R	
H	A	U	S		O	R	E	S		C	U	E
A	N	N		S	P	I	N		O	H	N	O
	Y	A	P	P	E	D		O	B	O	E	S
				R	O	N			U	T	E	
	Q	U	O	I		A	N	T	L	E	R	
P	U	R	P	L	I	S	H		I	D	O	L
T	I	D	E		L	E	I		S	I	L	O
S	P	U	R		L	A	P		K	E	E	P

ACROSS

1 Small metal nails

6 Leader of the Huns

12 Harley competitor

14 Stowed

15 Disconnect

16 Natural

17 Atmosphere

18 Contractor’s fig.

19 Thurs. follower

21 Drei less zwei

23 Scott Joplin piece

26 Street in Paris

27 Pallet

28 German pistol

30 Itch

31 Kind of poem

32 Fridge maker

33 Some aria singers

35 Put 2 and 2 together

DOWN

1 Provo inst.

2 Rushed off

3 Sound booster

4 The One-Lama

5 Feng —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	T	V		I	B	I	S			Q	U	A
N	E	O		F	O	R	A			A	T	M
T	A	I		F	O	A	L			I	S	A
E	C	L	A	I	R		K	I	D			
	H	A	L	E					N	E	A	T
			G	R	A	C	E	D		D	E	S
I	N	C	A		Y	O	M			C	A	T
V	O	L	E		L	O	U			O	M	E
Y	E	A		N	A	S	S	A	U			
	L	Y	R	E					D	R	A	B
		A	T	E		P	O	T	I	O	N	
F	I	E	F		A	J	A	R		M	R	I
D	O	L	T		S	O	L	E		E	O	N
A	U	F			E	N	I	D		D	N	A



ACROSS

1 Peak

38 Must-haves

39 Unisex wear

40 Sombrero

41 Shriveled up

42 Pisces mo.

43 Sci-fi computer

44 —’wester

46 Bother

48 Central Park sight

51 Reddish-brown

55 Piece of cake

56 Kitchen whistler

57 Approved

58 Eric Clapton classic

DOWN

1 Provo inst.

2 Rushed off

3 Sound booster

4 The One-Lama

5 Feng —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	T	V		I	B	I	S			Q	U	A
N	E	O		F	O	R	A			A	T	M
T	A	I		F	O	A	L			I	S	A
E	C	L	A	I	R		K	I	D			
	H	A	L	E					N	E	A	T
			G	R	A	C	E	D		D	E	S
I	N	C	A		Y	O	M			C	A	T
V	O	L	E		L	O	U			O	M	E
Y	E	A		N	A	S	S	A	U			
	L	Y	R	E					D	R	A	B
		A	T	E		P	O	T	I	O	N	
F	I	E	F		A	J	A	R		M	R	I
D	O	L	T		S	O	L	E		E	O	N
A	U	F			E	N	I	D		D	N	A

ACROSS

1 Juice-based drink

13 Went along with

19 Energized

20 Tenant

22 Form a thought

24 Christie of whodunits

25 Friendly

26 Clancy hero Jack —

27 Decision-maker

28 Fill the hull

29 Absorbed

34 Adventure-some journey

36 Leave a ship

42 Sulked angrily

43 Shade-loving plant

45 Percolate slowly

47 Face-off

48 Cable network

49 Noah’s vessel

50 Teachers’ org.

52 Pigs’ hangout

53 Bracket type

54 Drink with scones

DOWN

1 Provo inst.

2 Rushed off

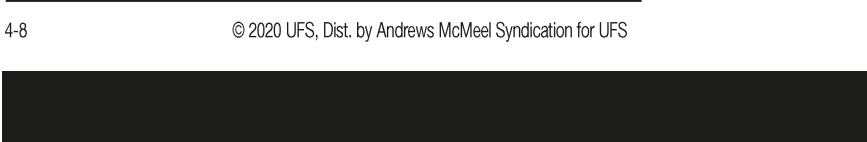
3 Sound booster

4 The One-Lama

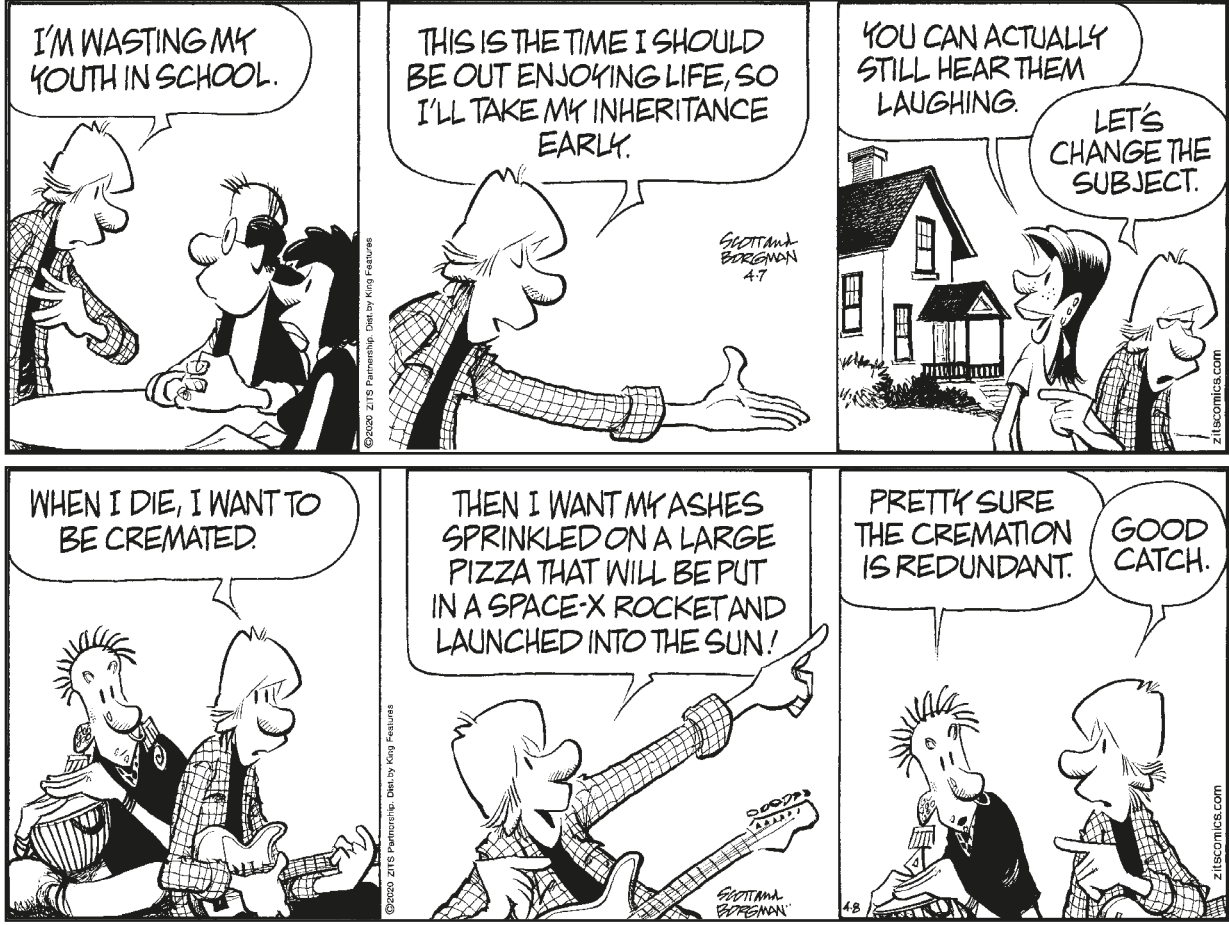
5 Feng —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13		14				
15							16				
							18				
	19	20			21	22		23	24	25	
26				27			28				29
30				31			32				
33			34			35	36		37		
38						39			40		
	41				42			43			
			44	45			46	47			
48	49	50					51		52	53	54
55							56				
57								58			



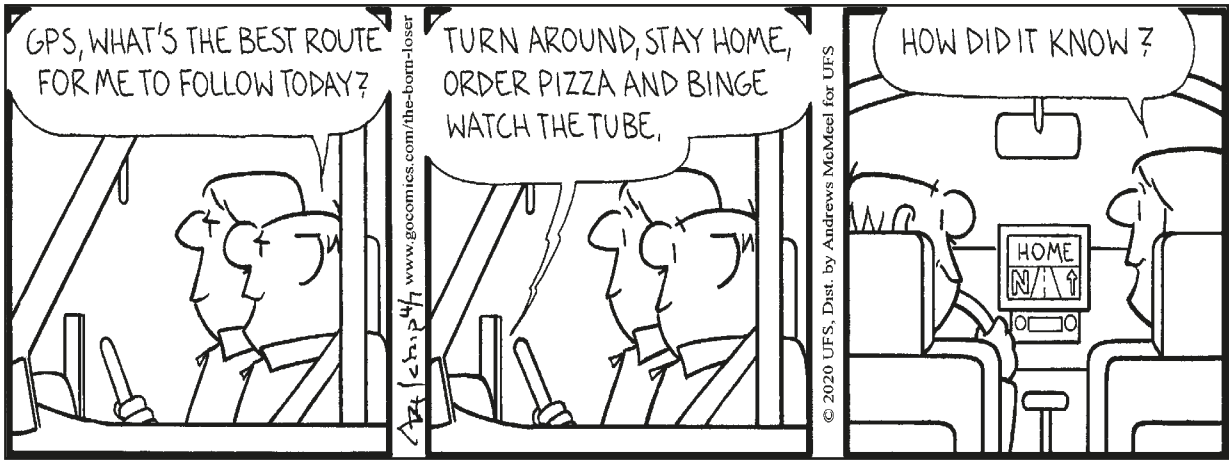
ZITS



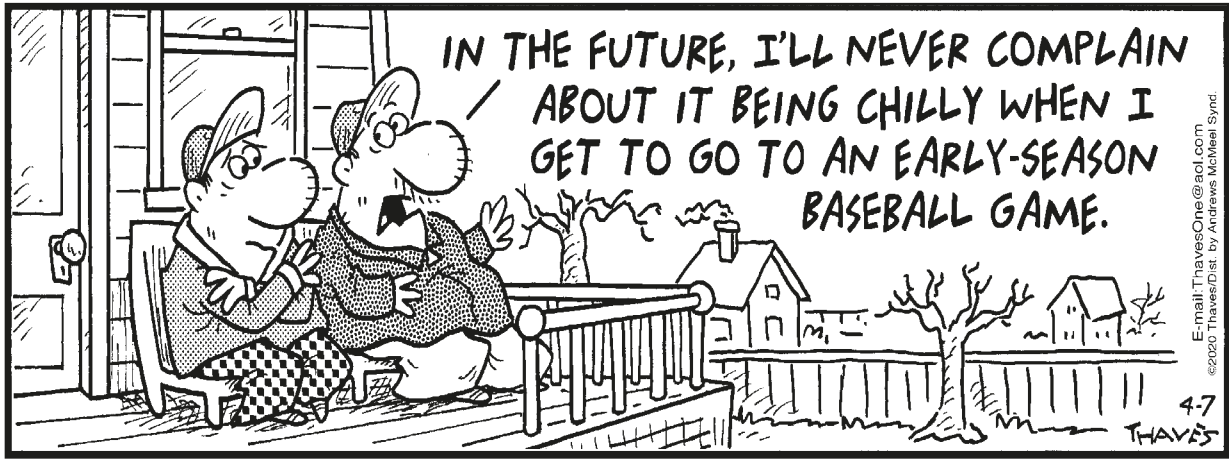
SALLY FORTH



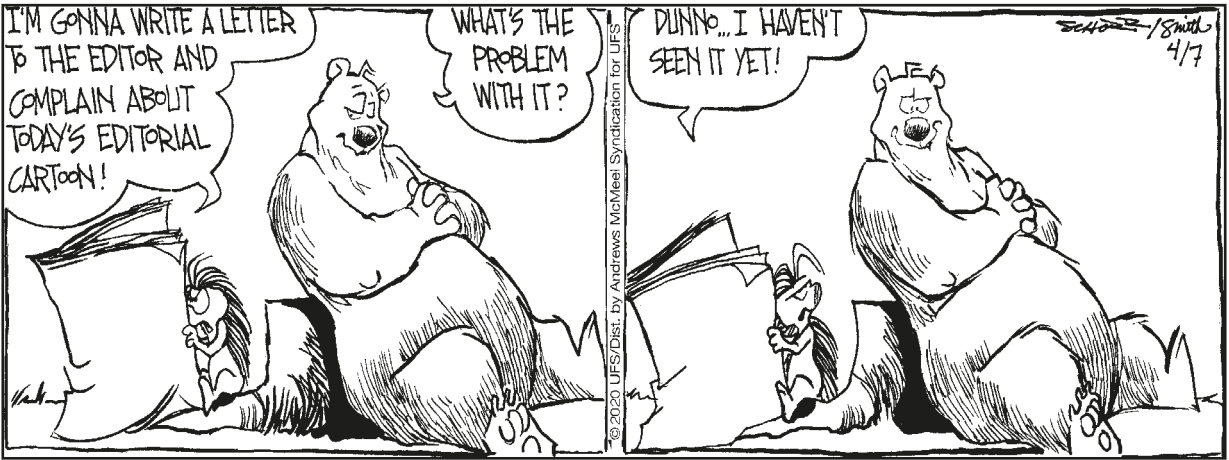
BORN LOSER



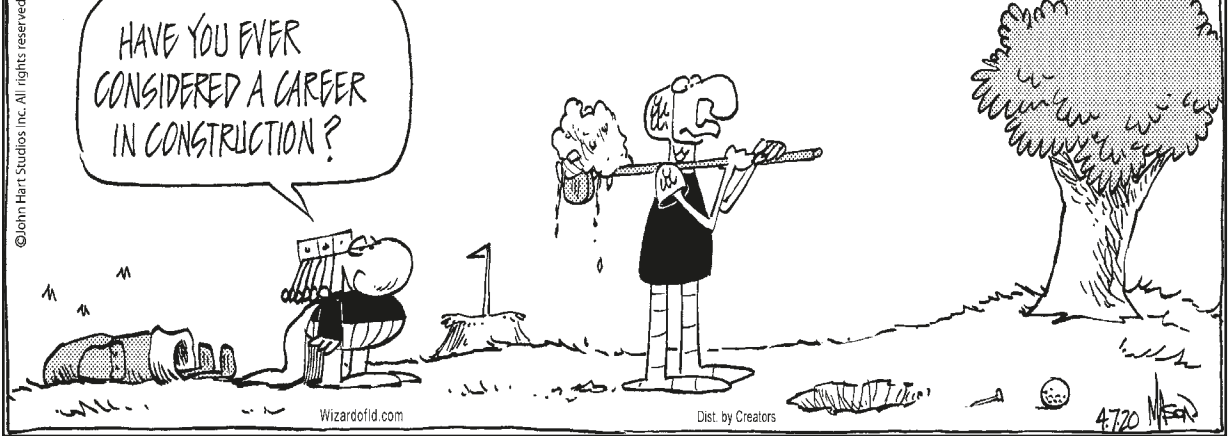
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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

				3	1		5	7
		3		4				6
1				9	6	3		
					4	6	1	
	1		6	2	9		8	
	5	9	1					
		6	5	1				4
5				7		8		
7	3		4	6				

9/6

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	2	1	5	6	4	8	7	3
8	6	7	3	9	1	5	4	2
3	4	5	8	2	7	9	6	1
2	9	8	1	3	6	7	5	4
4	5	3	9	7	8	2	1	6
7	1	6	2	4	5	3	8	9
6	7	9	4	5	2	1	3	8
1	3	4	7	8	9	6	2	5
5	8	2	6	1	3	4	9	7

HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

BRIDGE

headhere

FROM ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION
FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020
THE NEA BRIDGE by Phillip Alder
WHAT DIDN'T HAPPEN CAN BE HELPFUL TOO

Willie Nelson said, "Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results."

In bridge, we have negative inferences, which, if you use them beneficially, will result in positive results. In today's deal, how should South plan the play in five diamonds after West leads a trump, and East follows suit?

The good auction ended in the rarest game: five of a minor. But note that three no-trump is down immediately after a heart lead and a shift to the spade jack.

What suit would West usually lead after this auction?

Right -- a spade. When he doesn't do that, what conclusion can South draw?

That West has the spade ace. So, declarer is faced with three losers: two spades and one club. But he will only lose those spades if East can lead

North 04-07-20

♠ 9 4
♥ K J 3
♦ A J 10
♣ K 8 7 4 2

West East

♠ A Q 5 3 ♠ J 10 8 6
♥ Q 9 5 4 2 ♥ A 10 8 7 6
♦ 6 2 ♦ 3
♣ 10 5 ♣ Q J 9

South

♠ K 7 2
♥ —
♦ K Q 9 8 7 5 4
♣ A 6 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 2

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"MIV FZWVVB NF U YUONZ YVTNGY ... NM ZABDVXF VYAMNABF UBT YAATF MIUM BA AMIVW UWM LAWY ZUB IAJV MA MUZCEV." — FMUBEVX CGPWNZC

Previous Solution: "Condolences to the family of Kirk Douglas. What an incredible icon he was in this industry!" — William Shatner

TODAY'S CLUE: f equals 7

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SPORTS

Kentucky's Hagans, Maxey both headed to the NBA

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Kentucky starting guards Tyrese Maxey and Ashton Hagans have both announced that they will forego their remaining college eligibility and enter the NBA draft.

Hagans, sophomore, made the announcement on Sunday while Maxey, a freshman, announced the decision on Monday.

Hagans said the “time is now” to pursue his dream of playing professionally.

The 6-foot-3 Hagans was named Southeastern Conference Defensive Player of the Year as a freshman and

became one of the country's best point guards this past season. However, his time at Kentucky ended in controversy as he argued with forward Nick Richards and coach John Calipari and reportedly refused to re-enter in the second half of a home loss to Tennessee. Calipari downplayed the incident afterward.

Hagans then requested time away from the team for personal reasons and did not travel to the season finale at Florida. He was expected to return for the Wildcats at the SEC Tournament in Nashville, but that event and the NCAA Tournament were canceled

last month because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Hagans said in a statement Sunday he was disappointed not to be able to pursue a national title but added that he understands why.

“It’s time for me to live out my lifelong dream and declare for the NBA draft,” Hagans said. “It’s been my No. 1 goal since I first picked up a ball to take this step and I know my time is now.”

He also thanked coaches, teammates and fans and added, “the last two years have been some of the best of my life.”

Hagans was born and raised in Georgia. He had 351 assists at Kentucky — ranking 12th in school history — and 119 steals. He averaged 11.5 points, 6.4 assists, 3.9 rebounds and 1.9 steals last season.

Maxey scored 26 points against then-No. 1 Michigan State in his collegiate debut and finished the season tied for second in scoring on the team at 14 points per game. The 6-foot-3 freshman shot nearly 43% with 33 3-pointers and also averaged 4.3 rebounds and 3.2 assists while starting 28 of 31 games for the SEC champions. SEC coaches voted him

to the all-freshman team and all-SEC second team.

Maxey said in a release Monday that although he didn’t get to pursue his goal of winning a national championship, “this season was everything I signed up for.” The Garland, Texas, native added that “because I’m Wildcat made,” he’s ready for the next challenge of chasing his dream of playing in the NBA.

Calipari said in a statement on Monday that Maxey is “a great kid” with unwavering confidence in his ability and “potential he has only begun to realize.”

COMING TOGETHER



The renovation of the Madison Regatta's display boat are nearing completion at the Miss Madison shop on Milton Street. The boat, which was last owned by the Leland Unlimited team, raced in the late 1990s and into the 2000s as the PICO American Dream among other names and was known by the team as “Casper.” The Miss Madison Team acquired the hull and its trailer last summer and donated the boat to the Madison Regatta while holding onto the trailer to use for its new raceboat. Led by Miss Madison teammember Trey Holt, a local group has been busy getting the boat ready for display use only, and has repainted the boat to mirror the paint job from the 1971 craft. The Regatta is still seeking a trailer to use with the boat in order to take it to festivals and events. The boat should be ready by this summer. (Photos courtesy of Trey Holt)



Bryant, Duncan headlines Hall of Fame class

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

Kobe Bryant's resume has yet another entry to validate his greatness: He's now, officially, a Hall of Famer.

And he's got plenty of elite company in the 2020 class, one that may be as glitzy as any.

Bryant, who died in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26, and fellow NBA greats Tim Duncan and Kevin Garnett headlined a nine-person group announced Saturday as this year's class of enshrinees into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

“An amazing class,” Duncan said.

They all got into the Hall in their first year as finalists, as did WNBA great Tamika Catchings. Others had to wait a bit longer for the good news: Two-time NBA champion coach Rudy Tomjanovich finally got his call, as did longtime Baylor women's coach Kim Mulkey, 1,000-game winner Barbara Stevens of Bentley and three-time Final Four coach Eddie Sutton.

They were the eight finalists who were announced in February, and the panel of 24 voters who were tasked to decide who merited selection wound up choosing them all. Also headed to the Hall this year: former FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann, selected as a direct-elect by the international committee.

Bryant died about three weeks before the Hall of Fame said — as if there was going to be any doubt — that he was a finalist. Duncan and Garnett were also widely perceived to be locks to be part of this class; they were both 15-time NBA All-Stars, and Bryant was an 18-time selection.

Bryant's death has been part of a jarring start of the year for basketball: Commissioner Emeritus David Stern died on Jan. 1, Bryant and his daughter Gianna were among nine who died in the crash in late January, and the NBA shut down March 11 as the coronavirus pandemic began to grip the U.S.

Bryant was also a five-time champion with the Los Angeles Lakers, just as Duncan was with the San Antonio Spurs.

Garnett is the only player in NBA history with at least 25,000 points, 10,000 rebounds, 5,000 assists, 1,500 blocks and 1,500 steals. He also was part of Boston's 2008 NBA title.

Catchings was a 10-time WNBA All-Star and four-time Olympic gold medalist. Tomjanovich, who had overwhelming support from NBA peers who couldn't understand why it took so long for his selection, was a five-time All-Star as a player, guided Houston to back-to-back titles and took the 2000 U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal.

Mulkey has three NCAA titles as a coach, won two others as a player and had Baylor in position to vie for another championship this season had the global coronavirus pandemic not forced the shutdown of virtually every sport around the globe. Stevens has coached for 43 years and is a five-time Division II coach of the year. Sutton won more than 800 games in nearly four decades, and Baumann was one of the most powerful voices in international basketball until his death in 2018.

The enshrinement ceremony in Springfield, Massachusetts, is scheduled for Aug. 29. Should the pandemic force a delay, there is a tentative plan for an October ceremony as well.

Pro day cancellations force changes in process

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Bill Polian simplified the NFL's draft process years ago.

He studied film, relied on medical experts, checked the numbers and interviewed players.

With the flurry of pro days canceled because of the new coronavirus, the Hall of Fame executive who constructed multiple Super Bowl teams during his 32-year career believes it's time for a return to his throwback approach.

“Really all you need, and it's especially true in a time like today, you need the game film, the physical exam, which may be difficult to get right now, and the measurables,” he told The Associated Press. “So if a player has been to the combine, that's

all you really need. If a player hasn't been to the combine or is from a small school, then you've just got to go on the game film and you'd be slightly less accurate.

“And the people who haven't done it as long as I did are probably a little discombobulated about that right now.”

Younger scouts, front-office executives and even coaches find themselves coping with a whole new draft process with Americans hunkering down and doctors overwhelmed by the mounting cases of COVID-19.

Gone for the most part this year are access to in-person interviews, on-campus workouts and visits to team headquarters. Also gone are

some of the numbers garnered at pro days that decision-makers like to crunch as they becoming increasingly reliant on advanced metrics.

That combination has forced everyone to rethink how they do business.

Everybody agrees that top-tier players such as Heisman Trophy winner Joe Burrow of LSU or defensive end Chase Young of Ohio State won't be hurt by the cancellations. They did enough in their college careers — and it's all on tape.

Some players with medical concerns, such as Alabama's Tua Tagovailoa, the 2018 Heisman Trophy runner-up, or Colorado receiver Laviska Shenault Jr. probably won't see a precipitous drop in their stock either.

And those who competed in college all-star games but didn't receive a combine invite, like Indiana receiver Nick Westbrook, also have the advantage of performing in front of scouts.

Westbrook was working out in Seattle — until the pandemic started shutting down the city. So the Indiana receiver moved in with his parents in Florida but has struggled to find a workout facility.

It's not just the football component that disappoints players.

“Not knowing what's going to happen and even if the draft takes place on time, whether the minicamps start up and all those unknowns is probably the hardest thing to deal with right now,” Westbrook said.